

We claim:

1. A method for determining a presence status of a user, comprising:
obtaining presence information from a plurality of presence data stores;
5 translating said presence information from at least one of said presence data stores
into a standard format; and
determining said presence status of said user based on said obtained presence
information.
- 10 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said presence status indicates if said user can be
reached at one or more indicated devices.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein said presence information is obtained from a user
registration process.
- 15 4. The method of claim 1, wherein said presence information is obtained by
observing activities of a user.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein said obtaining step is performed by a presence
20 data collector.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein said obtaining step further comprises the step of
querying a presence data store for said presence information.
- 25 7. The method of claim 5, wherein said obtaining step further comprises the step of
receiving a message containing said presence information from a presence data store.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein said determining step further comprises the step
of determining said presence status of said user based on one or more rules that aggregate said
30 obtained presence information.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein said determining step further comprises the step of determining said presence status of said user based on one or more rules that filter said obtained presence information.

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10. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of translating said presence information in said standard format to a format appropriate for a recipient application and providing said presence status to said recipient application.

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11. The method of claim 1, wherein said presence data store is a device.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein said presence data store is an application.

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13. A method for determining a presence status of a user, comprising:
obtaining presence information from a plurality of presence data stores; and
determining said presence status of said user based on one or more rules that are applied to said obtained presence information.

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14. The method of claim 13, wherein said obtaining step further comprises the step of querying a presence data store for said presence information.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein said obtaining step further comprises the step of receiving a message containing said presence information from a presence data store.

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16. The method of claim 13, wherein said one or more rules includes at least one aggregation rule that determine said presence status based on one or more of said obtained presence information.

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17. The method of claim 13, wherein said one or more rules includes at least one filter rule that determine who may receive said presence status.

18. A system for determining a presence status of a user, comprising:
a memory; and
at least one processor, coupled to the memory, operative to:
5 obtain presence information from a plurality of presence data stores;
translate said presence information from at least one of said presence data stores
into a standard format; and
determine said presence status of said user based on said obtained presence
information.

10 19. The system of claim 18, wherein said presence status indicates if said user can be
reached at one or more indicated devices.

20. The system of claim 18, wherein said processor is further configured to query a
15 presence data store for said presence information.

21. The system of claim 18, wherein said processor is further configured to receive a
message containing said presence information from a presence data store.

20 22. The system of claim 18, wherein said processor is further configured to translate
said presence information to a format appropriate for a recipient application and providing said
presence status to said recipient application.

23. A system for determining a presence status of a user, comprising:
25 a memory; and
at least one processor, coupled to the memory, operative to:
obtain presence information from a plurality of presence data stores; and
determine said presence status of said user based on one or more rules that are
applied to said obtained presence information.

24. The system of claim 23, wherein said one or more rules includes at least one aggregation rule that determine said presence status based on one or more of said obtained presence information.

5 25. The system of claim 23, wherein said one or more rules includes at least one filter rule that determine who may receive said presence status.